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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/48/632/Add.3)]

48/145. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1/ and the International Covenants on Human Rights, 2/

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions, including the most recent, resolution 47/146 of 18 December 1992, as well as those of the Commission on Human Rights, including the most recent, resolution 1993/62 of 10 March 1993, 3/ and those of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination

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1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 3 (E/1993/23), chap. II, sect. A.

and Protection of Minorities, including the most recent, resolution 1993/14 of 20 August 1993, 4/

Noting that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has responded to the request of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights for information concerning allegations of human rights violations in that country, but that it did not allow him to pay a fourth visit to the country so that he might obtain direct and first-hand information on the current human rights situation there,

Reaffirming that Governments are accountable for assassinations and attacks by their agents against persons on the territory of another State, as well as for the incitement, approval or wilful condoning of such acts,

Noting the observation of the Special Representative that there is enough evidence to show that it is entirely proper for the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran to remain under international scrutiny, 5/

Noting also that the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in its resolution 1993/14, has condemned the continuing flagrant violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran,

Noting further the concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the interim report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights 6/ and the considerations and observations contained therein;

2. Expresses its deep concern at continuing reports of violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

3. Expresses its concern more specifically at the main criticisms of the Special Representative with regard to the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, namely, the high number of executions, cases of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the standard of the administration of justice, the absence of guarantees of due process of law, discriminatory treatment of certain groups of citizens by reason of their religious beliefs, notably the Baha'is, whose existence as a viable religious community is threatened, and restrictions on the freedom of expression, thought, opinion and the press, and that, as noted by the Special Representative, there is continued discrimination against women;

4/ See E/CN.4/1994/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/45, chap. II, sect. A.

5/ See A/48/526, annex, para. 130.

6/ A/48/526, annex.

4. Expresses its grave concern at the continued use of the death penalty, which the Special Representative has described as excessive;

5. Expresses its grave concern that there are continuing threats to the life of a citizen of another State, whose case is mentioned in the report of the Special Representative, as well as to individuals associated with his work, which appear to have the support of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

6. Urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to refrain from activities such as those mentioned in the report of the Special Representative against members of the Iranian opposition living abroad;

7. Regrets that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has still not permitted the Special Representative to visit the country and has thus not enabled him fully to discharge his mandate by according him full cooperation;

8. Urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement existing agreements with international humanitarian organizations;

9. Calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to intensify its efforts to investigate and rectify the human rights issues raised by the Special Representative in sections IV and V of his interim report, in particular as regards the administration of justice and due process of law;

10. Also calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to comply with international instruments on human rights, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2/ to which the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party, and to ensure that all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, including religious groups, enjoy the rights recognized in those instruments;

11. Endorses the view of the Special Representative that the international monitoring of the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran should be continued;

12. Calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate fully with the Special Representative;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Representative;

14. Decides to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the situation of minority groups, such as the Baha'is, during its forty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions" in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993